

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

CU-04 OMB-01 DRC-01 /092 W
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R 311022Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 114

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 6596

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS PFOR TH TW

SUBJECT: INFORMAL ROC INQUIRY ABOUT US WILLINGNESS TO RECEIVE
PRAPHAT/NARONG

REF A. TAIPEI 6571 B. TAIPEI 6361

1. FRED CHIEN, IN HIS CAPACITY AS PREMIER'S TEMPORARY
CONFIDENTIAL AIDE, CALLED ON ME OCTOBER 31 AT PREMIER'S
REQUEST TO INQUIRE INFORMALLY IF US WOULD BE WILLING TO
PROVIDE HAVEN FOR PRAPHAT AND NARONG. USING MUCH THE
SAME REASONING AS VICE MINISTER YANG YESTERDAY (REF A),
CHIEN SAID CCK HAD DEFINITELY CONCLUDED THAT CONTINUED
PRESENCE OF THESE MEN IN TAIWAN POSED SERIOUS THREAT
TO FIENDLY ROC/THAI RELATIONS AS WELL AS TO THAILAND'S
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INTERNAL STABILITY THOUGH THESE VIEWS NOT YET

CONVEYED TO UNINVITED GUESTS.) SINCE US WAS LESS VULNERABLE THAN ROC AND SINCE THANON WAS ALREADY IN US, CHIEN ASKED THAT I DETERMINE USG ATTITUDE TOWARD ACCEPTING THE ADDITIONAL MEN.

2. I COMMENTED THAT IN CONVERSATIONS WITH PREMIER AND OTHERS I HAD NOT INTENDED TO IMPLY ANY US WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT PRAPHAT AND NARONG. WE WERE ALREADY UNDER CRITICISM IN SOME THAI CIRCLES FOR HAVING ALLOWED THANON INTO THE US, AND SUBSEQUENT TO MY LAST CONVERSATION WITH CCK I HAD RECEIVED INDICATION THAT USG WOULD FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE HAVEN TO PRAPHAT AND NARONG. CHIEN WAS NOT SURPRISED BY COOLNESS OF MY REACTION.

3. I ASKED WHETHER ROC HAD CONSIDERED SWITZERLAND OR SOME CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRY AS A DESTINATION. CHIEN THOUGHT THESE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE BUT EMPHASIZED ROC DIFFICULTIES IN COMMUNICATING IN THE ABSENCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HE REQUESTED THEREFORE THAT IF USG FELT IT NECESSARY TO DISCOURAGE CONSIDERATION OF US AS A HAVEN THAT WE HELP ROC EXPLORE OTHER POSSIBILITIES. HE MADE IT CLEAR ROC DOES NOT EXPECT ANY ASSISTANCE IN THIS REGARD FROM GOT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. ASSUMING DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY BANGKOK CONTINUE TO OPPOSE GRANTING PRAPHAT AND NARONG ENTRY INTO US, I WOULD APPRECIATE EXPLICIT CONFIRMATION. AT THE SAME TIME I STRONGLY URGE THAT USG MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS. ROC IS SEVERELY HANDICAPPED FOR SUCH AN EXERCISE AND IT IS RATHER DESPERATE TO FIND A SOLUTION.
MCCONAUGHY

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